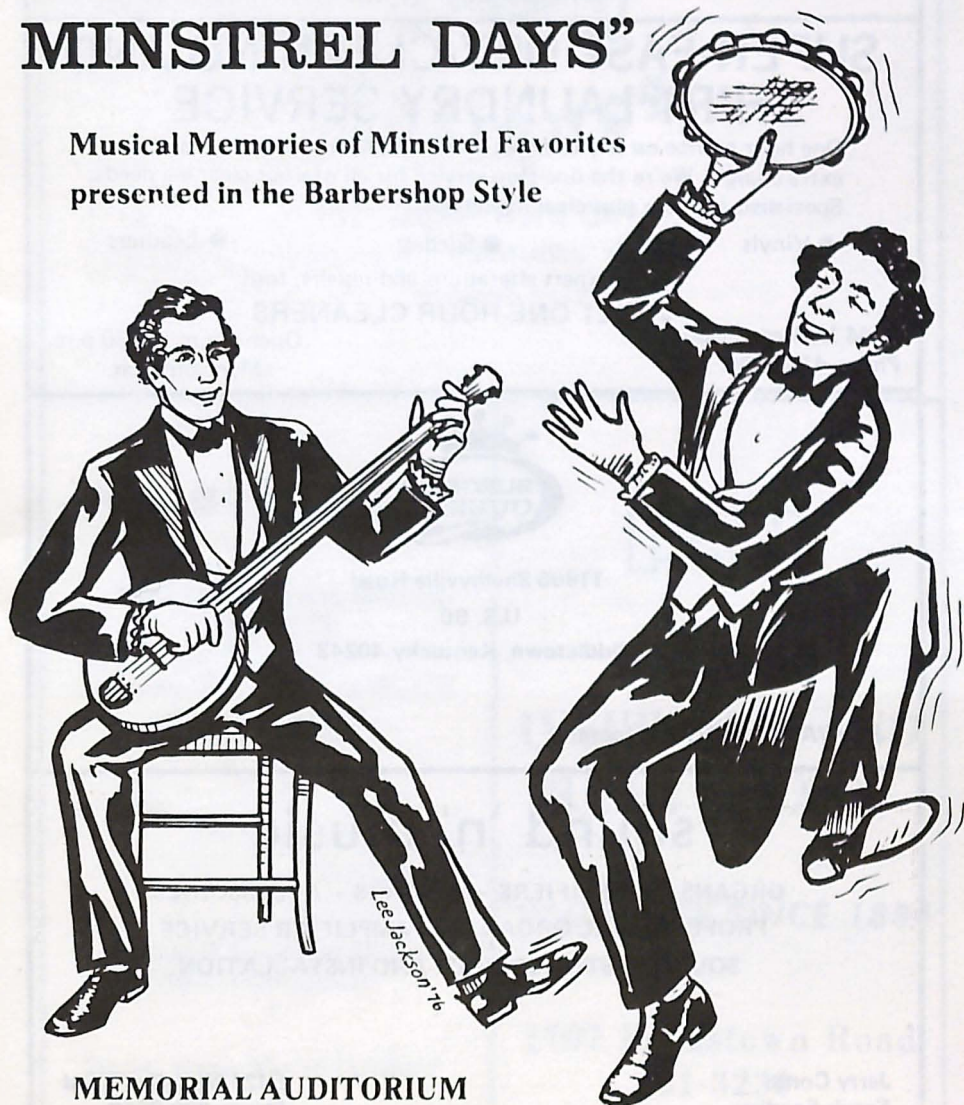


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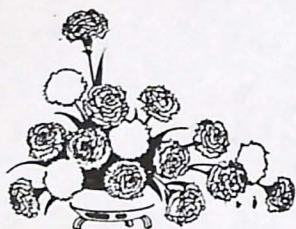
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## IN MEMORIAM

Robert M. Dye,  
Thoroughbred

The Thoroughbreds affectionately dedicate this show to the memory of our brother and fellow singer, Bob Dye, whose courage and perseverance has been an inspiration to all of us.

Bob joined the Thoroughbreds just before our intensive training began for the 1974 international competition in Kansas City. He came through with flying colors and tasted the sweetness of victory with us when we were named champions for the fourth time. From that time on, he was truly a dedicated Thoroughbred.

He had a special dream . . . to have the Thoroughbreds do a concert in his home town, Cleveland, Ohio. He had been working toward this dream for two years and succeeded early this year when negotiations were completed for the Thoroughbreds to be the featured attraction October 9th at the annual show of the West Town Chapter of Sweet Adelines, Inc. His dream was to be a reality at last!

When Bob became seriously ill in August, he was determined to get the best treatment possible and be back in shape for the Cleveland concert. After further examinations in Cleveland, he

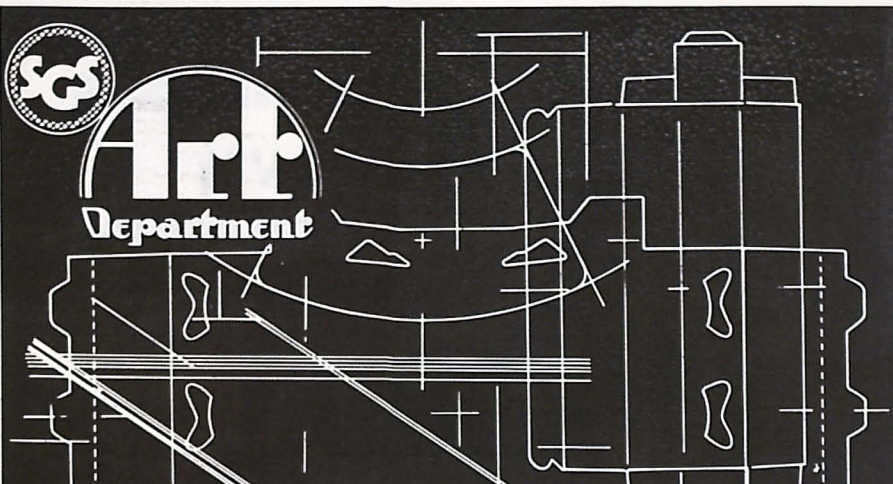
learned that his illness was incurable; but his determination became stronger than ever to sing with the Thoroughbreds one last time.

Through faith, sheer determination and the help of sympathetic doctors and nurses, he did make that show and sang his heart out — from a wheelchair. Furthermore, he miraculously summed the strength to attend the afterglow. The audience was awed when he asked for the microphone and talked to us for several minutes on what it meant for him to be a Thoroughbred and a member of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber-shop Quartet Singing in America. Shortly afterwards he returned via stretcher to his sickbed. On October 20, his heroic fight was over; but his dream had been realized.

Thanks to the courage of this young man, all of us have gained a better appreciation for the great society to which we belong and the privilege of singing with champions. Though no longer with us physically, his spirit still sings in our hearts.

V.L. "Smokey" Stover






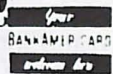
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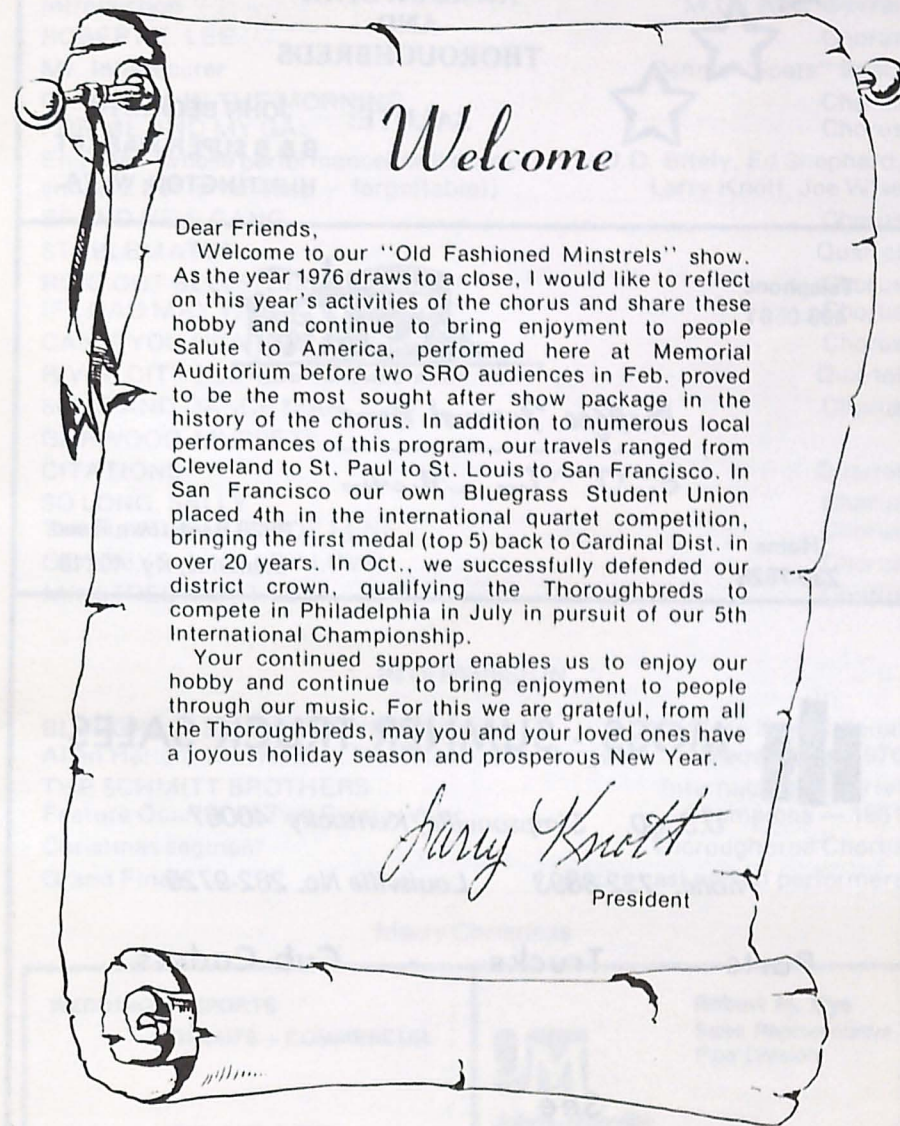
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## Welcome

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our "Old Fashioned Minstrels" show. As the year 1976 draws to a close, I would like to reflect on this year's activities of the chorus and share these hobby and continue to bring enjoyment to people Salute to America, performed here at Memorial Auditorium before two SRO audiences in Feb. proved to be the most sought after show package in the history of the chorus. In addition to numerous local performances of this program, our travels ranged from Cleveland to St. Paul to St. Louis to San Francisco. In San Francisco our own Bluegrass Student Union placed 4th in the international quartet competition, bringing the first medal (top 5) back to Cardinal Dist. in over 20 years. In Oct., we successfully defended our district crown, qualifying the Thoroughbreds to compete in Philadelphia in July in pursuit of our 5th International Championship.

Your continued support enables us to enjoy our hobby and continue to bring enjoyment to people through our music. For this we are grateful, from all the Thoroughbreds, may you and your loved ones have a joyous holiday season and prosperous New Year.

*Gary Knott*  
President



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ROBERT E. LEE  
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CAROLINA IN THE MORNING  
FOR ME AND MY GAL  
End Men (whose performances will seem  
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Thoroughbred Chorus  
M.C.: Allan Horrar  
Chorus  
Dennis "Spats" Spetz  
Chorus  
Chorus  
O.D. Bitely, Ed Shephard,  
Larry Knott, Joe Wise  
Chorus  
Quartet  
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Barbershop Harmony has a new ring these days — one with a deep and joyous purpose to it. For Barbershoppers are willingly lending heart and voice that silent children throughout the world may be given speech. S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. is proud indeed of its International Service Project, the Institute of Logopedics in Wichita, Kansas.

In every community there are men who love to use their God-given talents to sing. In every community too, there are silent children who cannot express even the simplest song or thought imprisoned in their hearts. They look to the Barbershoppers for escape from their lonely prisons of silence. We are humbly grateful that God has granted use the privilege and talent to sing — *that they shall speak*.

Communication, as every Barbershopper knows, is mankind's most vital tool. As a pioneer in the field, the Institute has brought speech to more than 30,000 persons throughout the world; and has become the largest residential habilitative center. Today more than 3 children per day are restored to their communities to take their rightful places as speaking members of society.

But countless thousands still plead mutely for our help . . . your help. We cannot — nor do we wish to — ignore their unspoken appeals.

Without speech a human's world is dark and his potential unknown.

No one ever dies from a speech disorder. But, for millions existing in silence, it can be a living death.

To meet the needs of the speechless, Dr. Martin F. Palmer, Founder of the Institute, developed an integrated three-fold program consisting of the finest possible clinical services for all communicative problems; expert professional education for logopedists; and an excellent and on-going research organization.

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.'s Service Project, the Institute of Logopedics, overlooks no facet of a child's development in his quest for communication. Our pride in our project, this great facility for the speechless, knows no bounds, and our gratitude at having a part in its future is inspiring.

As we sing, we hear in our hearts a chorus of voices once silent who are joining us in song . . . they are the 30,000 who found speech at the Institute of Logopedics which we proudly claim as our own.

But we are mindful also of the millions who silently look to us — and to YOU — for their birthright — *Speech*.



**WE SING . . . THAT THEY TOO SHALL SPEAK!!  
 WE INVITE YOU TO SHARE IN THIS WORTHY CAUSE  
 IF YOU SO DESIRE**

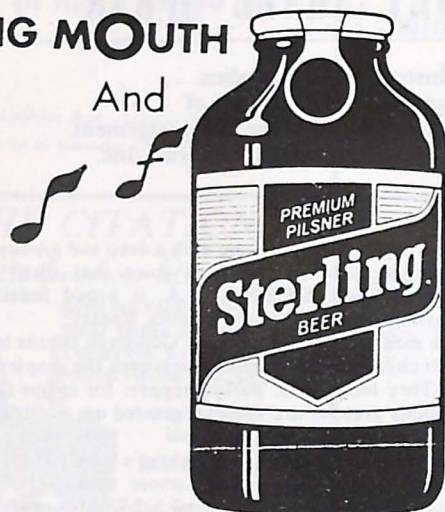




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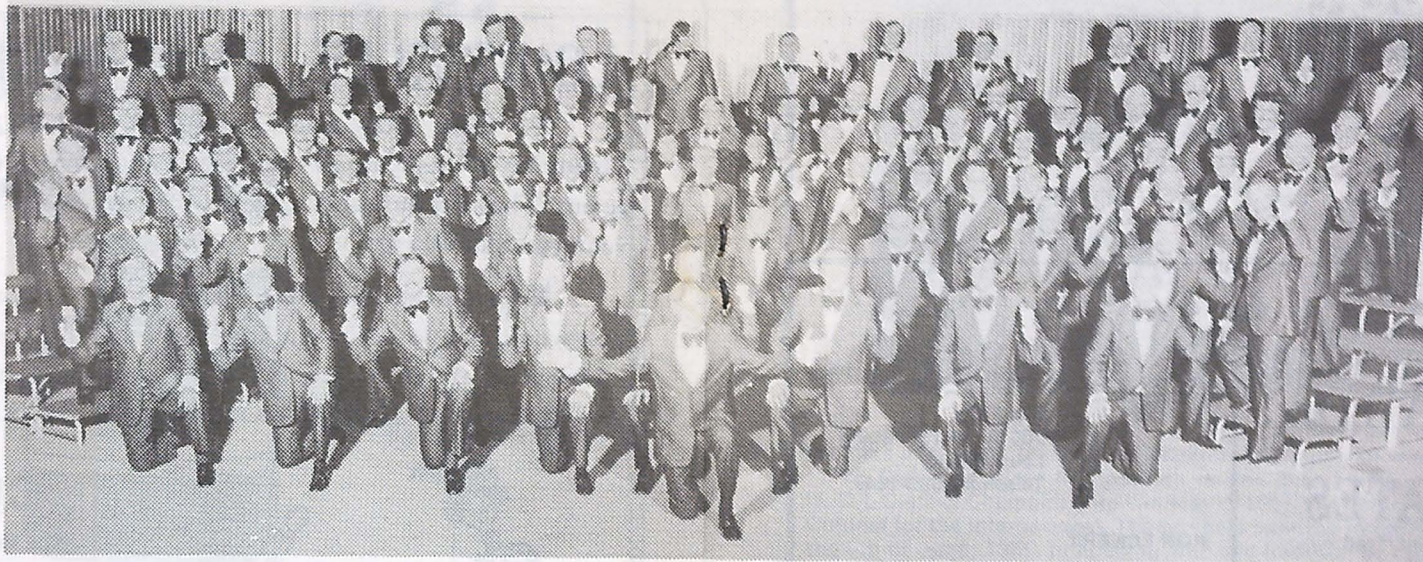
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## THE THOROUGHBREDS

On a stage in Kansas City on July 13, 1974 The Thoroughbreds accomplished what no other chorus in the world has ever achieved . . . they won the coveted International Barbershop Chorus Championship for an unprecedented fourth time! And what a championship year it was, traveling and singing for Society shows, local convention groups, and capping the year with a triumphant appearance at the 1975 International Convention in Indianapolis to "Sing-away" the honored championship trophy to our worthy successors.

Each year the nearly 800 choruses in our Society perform in Regional and District competition for the right to compete at the International Convention, and the fifteen top choruses meet in the final contest which is closely judged on the fine technical crafts of blending voices in perfectly structured harmony. On three previous occasions — in 1962, 1966, and again in 1969 — The Thoroughbreds emerged victorious. And their 1974 triumph places them in an exalted position which knowledgeable barbershoppers claim will never be equaled by another group.

Now ineligible for international competition until 1977, The Thoroughbreds have turned their energies and talents to other pursuits. Since 1976 is the Nations's Bicentennial year, our Society's musical leaders have created a musical birthday celebration recapturing America's history in song. This "Salute to America" is to be featured by every barbershop chapter during their 1976 Annual Shows, and the Society has recorded it as a two-record album so all may enjoy it in years to come. Now what chorus would they invite to make this Bicentennial recording? . . . The best, the Thoroughbreds.

These albums have been made available to anyone who might like to have a personal memento of America's musical heritage.

The Louisville Chapter has traveled a long road since its inception in 1945, and its Thoroughbred Chorus has established an enviable standard of performing excellence in the process. We hope you enjoy our songs as much as we enjoy bringing them to you.





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THE SCHMITT BROTHERS



The quartet was first organized to be a Church Choir. In December of 1949 the brothers joined the Manitowoc, Wisconsin Chapter of the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.

The Quartet entered Competition on the 3rd of November, 1950, and won the "L.O.L. District Championship." In May of 1951, they entered and won the Regional Contest for the International. The brothers won the International Championship on the 9th of June, 1951. In keeping with the tradition of the Society, they may not compete in any further contests.

Fran the Bass, is President of Two Rivers Realty Corporation; Paul, the Baritone, is an agent for New York Life Insurance Company; Joe, the Tenor, is Executive Director of the Manitowoc Two Rivers Chamber of Commerce; Jim, the Lead, is President of J & J Schmitt, Inc.

During the past years the brothers have traveled more than two million miles and have appeared on over 2,500 programs. They have been guests on many national television programs. The brothers have recored 78 of their most requested songs under both commercial and society labels. Their albums are distributed by the Daniel Co., Inc., Box 232, Two Rivers, Wisc. 54241, and the National Headquarters of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc. They have sung in all of the top Music Halls and Theaters in the United States and Canada. Entertaining the armed forces overseas is one of their most treasured memories.

They come from a family of seventeen children, six girls and eleven boys. Their Father died in 1939 and their Mother died in 1963. The members of the quartet have 34 children of their own.

Singing is truly a hobby with them. It has been the source of much pleasure to them and their families . . . a treasured enjoyment that fills their every free minute. It is their earnest hope that they can pass some of this joy on to each of you.

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| Baritone ..... | Dan Burgess |
| Bass .....     | Rick Staab  |

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At the 1975 International Competition in Indianapolis, The Bluegrass Student Union were invited to perform as mike-testers, representing the Cardinal District. In the spring of 1976, the quartet won the Cardinal District International Preliminaries which gave them the right to compete in the International Competition in San Francisco. The Bluegrass Student Union sang all three nights in California and when it was all over they were announced as the new 1976 4th place medalists.

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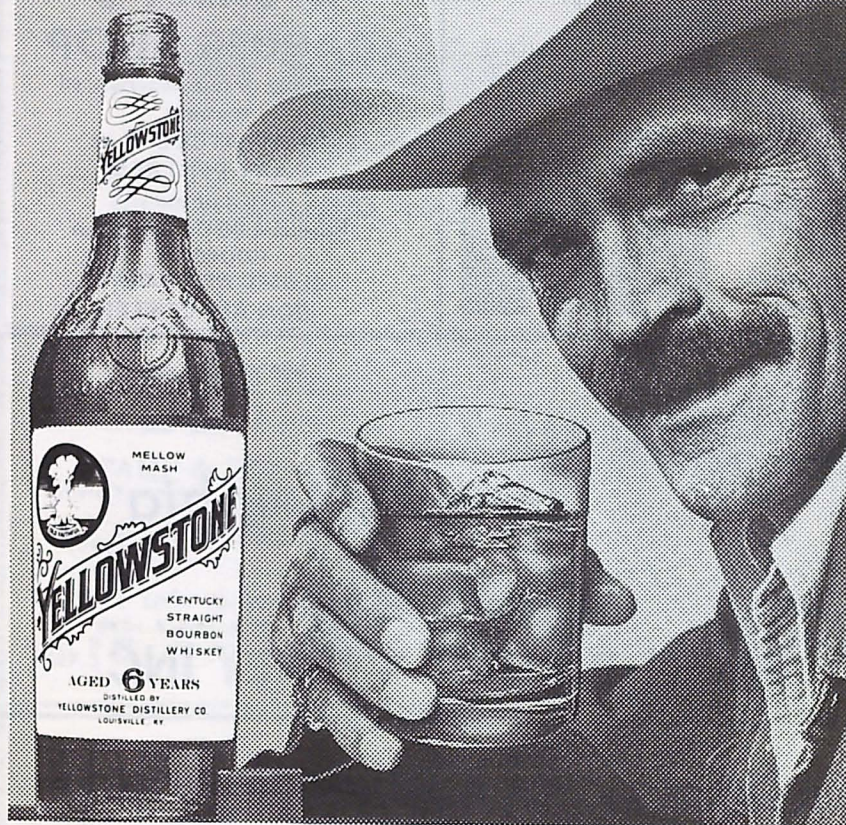
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| Bass ..... | Bill Myers    | Baritone ..... | Ken Buckner |

The Citations were formed July 5, 1976 and in their first competitive effort in Oct. 1965 they won the Cardinal District Championship. They have competed in the International Contest many times.

In 1966 they sang there way to the quartet finals, placed in the top 10 in 1970 and have been ranked as high as #7 in the entire society. Their goal of course is to win a spot in the top 5 and eventually the championship. They have performed for all types of organizations, conventions and charitable causes including a tour to Viet Nam for the military services, and for this the Society presented them with the 1973 Public Relations Award.

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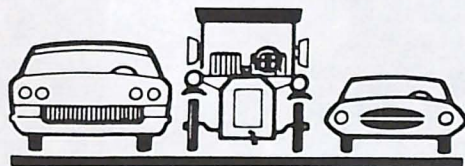
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| Lead .....  | Dennis Spetz       | Bass .....     | Jim Burgess |

This quartet could well have been named the "Three Bass Hit" or something similar, because it is made up of three basses and a tenor. Dennis Spetz (lead), Murrel Luse (baritone) and Jim Burgess (bass) all sing bass in the Thoroughbred Chorus. Charlie Oberhausen sings tenor in both the quartet and chorus.

This is a new quartet, but none of the foursome is new to quarteting. They

have all sung in various quartets for shows and contests.

Dennis, Murrel and Charlie are "multi-part" singers, as has been proven in past foursomes. Jim is strictly a bass who claims he can't even think as high as the other three can sing.

This group has a rather unique sound and we expect a good showing from them in upcoming contests.

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